IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-258 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein and please substitute for them the following new claims.

259. (New) An optical lens system comprising:

a lens having a first focal length; and,

an electro-active region coupled to the lens,

the electro-active region, when activated, altering the focal length of a first portion of the lens system to a second focal length, the second focal length different from the first focal length.

260. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 further comprising:

a controller controlling the activation of the electro-active region.

261. (New) The optical lens system of claim 260 wherein the controller contains an optical power prescription for an eye of a user.

262. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to alter the focal length of a second portion of the lens system to a third focal length, the third focal length different from the second focal length.

263. (New) The optical lens system of claim 262 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to simultaneously alter the focal length of the first portion of the lens system to a second focal length and the second portion of the lens system to a third focal length.

264. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region has at least one of a fixed outer surface or a fixed inner surface.

265. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein a fixed outer surface of the electro-active region has a radius of curvature proportional to a radius of curvature of the lens adjacent to the electro-active region.

266. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region includes a plurality of pixilated regions.

267. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region includes a diffractive surface.

268. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to correct the refractive error of a user to substantially 20/20 vision.

269. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is between a first fixed surface of the lens and a second fixed surface of the lens.

270. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein a surface of the lens has a scratch resistant coating.

271. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein a surface of the lens has an anti-reflective coating.

272. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens has two fixed focal lengths.

273. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens provides astigmatic power and axis correction for a user.

274. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is centered on the lens.

275. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is located off-center on the lens.

276. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region includes a polymer gel.

277. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region includes a metallic layer.

278. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region includes a liquid crystal.

279. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 further comprising:
a tint effect electro-active region coupled to the lens.

280. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens includes a photochromatic agent.

281. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 further comprising:
an anti-reflective coated electro-active region coupled to the lens.

282. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens system includes a prismatic zone.

283. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 further comprising:
a support coupled to the lens.

284. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens is supported by a phoropter.

285. (New) The optical lens system of claim 283 wherein the support is optical equipment.

286. (New) The optical lens system of claim 285 wherein the optical equipment is opthalmic equipment.

287. (New) The optical lens system of claim 260 wherein the controller receives signals containing data indicating where a user is looking.

288. (New) The optical lens system of claim 283 further comprising:

a range finder coupled to the support.

289. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region contains a fail-safe zone usable to view objects in the distance when the electro-active region malfunctions.

290. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein when the electro-active region malfunctions the lens system defaults to a focal length greater than 21 inches.

291. (New) The optical system of claim 259 wherein when the electro-active region malfunctions the lens system defaults to a distance focal length.

292. (New) The optical system of claim 259 wherein when the electro-active region malfunctions the lens system defaults to a focal length equal to the focal length of the lens.

293. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is a defined near vision electro-active region located intermittently above a 180 degree meridian of the lens.

294. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region contains a pixilated element.

295. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region contains a diffractive element.

296. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region contains a liquid crystal element.

297. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region contains a material whose refractive index is altered by an electrical voltage.

298. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens includes a presbyopic correction region and the electro-active region is adapted to correct for an astigmatism created by the presbyopic correction region.

299. (New) The optical lens system of claim 298 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to subtract a portion of the astigmatism created by the presbyopic correction region.

300. (New) The optical lens system of claim 298 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to offset a portion of the astigmatism created by the presbyopic correction region.

301. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the lens is a semi-finished lens blank.

302. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259 wherein the electro-active region is adapted to focus the near vision or intermediate vision or both of a user and wherein a portion of the electro-active region is located above a 180 degree meridian of the lens.

303. (New) The optical lens system of claim 259,

wherein the lens has a fixed front surface and a fixed back surface,

wherein the lens is adapted to provide astigmatism correction for a user,

wherein the electro-active region provides spherical plus power for the user, and

wherein the sum of the power of the lens plus the power of the electro-active region provides the needed power correction for the near-point vision of a user.

304. (New) An optical lens system comprising:

a lens having a fixed focal length; and

an electro-active region coupled to the lens,

the coupled lens and electro-active region creating more than one simultaneous focal length for the lens system when the electro-active region is activated.